



***PRESCRIPTIVE COMPLIANCE OPTION***  
***LANDSCAPE DOCUMENTATION PACKAGE FOR SMALL LANDSCAPING PROJECTS***  
***2015 State Model Water Efficient Landscape Ordinance Requirements***

To reduce the complexity and costs for smaller landscape projects, the State of California allows a prescriptive compliance approach for landscapes between 500 and 2,499 square feet. Landscapes within this size range can comply either through meeting the full requirements of the Model Water Efficient Landscape Ordinance or through this prescriptive compliance approach. The following contains a checklist of all of the prescriptive requirements in accordance with the California Code of Regulations Title 23. Waters, Division 2. Department of Water Resources, Chapter 2.7, Model Water Efficient Landscape Ordinance, Appendix D.

*For general questions regarding this ordinance, contact the Planner of the Day at (626) 744-6777 or visit <https://ww5.cityofpasadena.net/planning/water-efficient-landscape-ordinance/>.*

**PROJECT INFORMATION**

Date:	Case Number (BLD or PLN):
Project Name:	Project Address:
Name of Project Applicant:	Telephone No:
	Email Address:
Total Landscaped Area (in square feet) including breakdown of turf and plant material (must be between 500 and 2,499 sq. ft.):	Project Type (Residential, Commercial, New, Rehabilitated):
Water Supply Type (potable, recycled, well) and Purveyor:	Number of New Residential Units:

**Certification:**

“I agree to comply with the requirements of the Prescriptive Compliance Option of the MWELO”.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Applicant Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date



### *Prescriptive Compliance Option*

California Code of Regulations Title 23, Division 2, Chapter 2.7, Appendix D

The Landscape Documentation Package for the Prescriptive Compliance Option may be used as an alternative option for smaller landscaping projects in compliance with the Model Water Efficient Landscape Ordinance. Compliance with the following items is mandatory and must be documented on a landscape and irrigation design plan in order to utilize the Prescriptive Compliance Option

Please ensure your submittal includes the following:

- A landscape and irrigation plan that includes a plant list with quantities of each species.

#### **Plant Material (Title 23, Chapter 2.7, Appendix D (b) (3))**

- For residential areas, 75% of landscape, excluding edibles and areas using recycled water, shall consist of climate-adapted plants that require occasional, little or no summer water and which have an average WUCOLS plant factor of 0.3. WUCOLS plants database can be found online at: <http://ucanr.edu/sites/WUCOLS/>
- For non-residential areas, 100% of the plants, excluding edibles and areas using recycled water, shall consist of plants that average a WUCOLS plant factor of 0.3.
- Add note to plans: "A minimum 3-inch layer of mulch shall be applied on all exposed soil surfaces of planting areas except turf areas, creeping or rooting groundcovers, or direct seeding applications where mulch is contraindicated."

#### **Turf (Title 23, Chapter 2.7, Appendix D (b) (4))**

- Turf shall not exceed 25% of the landscape area in residential areas.
- No turf permitted in non-residential areas
- Turf not permitted on slopes greater than 25%.
- Turf is prohibited in parkways less than 10 feet wide.

#### **Irrigation (Title 23, Chapter 2.7, Appendix D (b) (5))**

- Automatic weather-based or soil-moisture based Irrigation controllers shall be installed on the irrigation system.
- Pressure regulators shall be installed on the irrigation system to ensure dynamic pressure of the system is within the manufacturer's recommended pressure range.
- Manual-shut-off valves shall be installed as close as possible to the point of connection of the water supply.
- Areas less than 10 ft. in width in any direction shall be irrigated with subsurface irrigation or other means that produces no runoff or overspray.



- For non-residential projects with landscape areas of 1,000 sq. ft. or more, private sub-meter(s) to measure landscape water use shall be installed.
- Add note to plans: "At the time of final inspection, the permit applicant must provide the owner of the property with a certificate of completion, certificate of installation, irrigation schedule of landscape and irrigation maintenance."
- Add note to plans: "Unless contradicted by a soils test, compost at a rate of a minimum of four cubic yards per 1,000 square feet of permeable area shall be incorporated to a depth of six inches into the soil"

Note:

1. Landscape projects not eligible for the Prescriptive Compliance Option are required to prepare a complete Landscape Documentation Package.



**CERTIFICATION OF INSTALLATION  
ACCORDING TO THE PRESCRIPTIVE COMPLIANCE  
SUBMITTAL**

*(Required prior to Final)*

"I/we certify that based upon periodic site observations, the work has been completed in accordance with the ordinance and that the landscape planting and irrigation installation conform with the criteria and specifications of the approved Landscape Documentation Package for the Prescriptive Compliance Option submittal."

Signature*	Date	
Name (print)	Telephone No.	
	Fax No.	
Title	Email Address	
License No. or Certification No.		
Company	Street Address	
City	State	Zip Code

\*Signer of the landscape design plan, signer of the irrigation plan, or a licensed landscape contractor.

**IRRIGATION SCHEDULING**

Attach parameters for setting the irrigation schedule on controller per ordinance Section 492.10.

**SCHEDULE OF LANDSCAPE AND IRRIGATION MAINTENANCE**

Attach schedule of Landscape and Irrigation Maintenance per ordinance Section 492.11.



### ACKNOWLEDGEMENT BY THE LOCAL WATER PURVEYOR

*INSTRUCTIONS: Complete Section A of this form after MWELO plans have been approved and submit form to the City of Pasadena Water & Power Department for completion of Section B. This form must be signed by the Pasadena Water Department and submitted to the Permit Center prior to building permit issuance.*

City of Pasadena Department of Water & Power  
 150 S. Los Robles Avenue, Suite 200, Pasadena, CA  
 (626) 744-3865

**SECTION A. Project Address and Location:**

Street Address:		Parcel, tract or lot number, if available.
City <i>PASADENA</i>	Zip Code	Work Description
Total Landscape Area:	Latest Approved Plan Date:	Other Areas:

**Property Owner/Owner's Representative:**

Name	Telephone No.	
	Email	
Company	Street Address	
City	State	Zip Code

**SECTION B. Water Purveyor Acknowledgment**

This is to certify that the Water Efficient Landscape Worksheet has been received by this agency, as required by the California Code of Regulations Title 23, Chapter 2.7, the Model Water Efficient Landscape Ordinance Section 492.1.

**Name of Water Purveyor:** CITY OF PASADENA DEPARTMENT OF WATER AND POWER

Name	Title
Signature	Date
Notes/Comments:	